

Janet Napolitano
Governor

Office of the Governor

*** SILVESTRE S. HERRERA DAY ***

WHEREAS, on Monday, November 26, 2007, Silvestre S. Herrera, a proud son of Arizona, went to his "last post"; and

WHEREAS, born in Camargo, Chihuahua, Mexico of parents who died when he was a year old, Silvestre S. Herrera was raised by his uncle in the United States; and

WHEREAS, eager to serve his adopted country during World War II, a 27-year-old Silvestre S. Herrera joined the 36th Infantry Division; and

WHEREAS, on March 15th, 1945, near the German border in France, Private First Class Silvestre S. Herrera desperately engaged the enemy while in a mine field saving the lives of his fellow platoon members but losing both legs to mine explosions; and

WHEREAS, for his selfless courage, Private First Class Silvestre S. Herrera was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, the first soldier from Arizona to receive the medal during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Silvestre S. Herrera was also awarded the highest award for valor from the nation of his birth, the Mexican Premier Merito Militar, the only person ever authorized to wear both awards; and

WHEREAS, Silvestre S. Herrera lived his life as a humble man of distinction, proud of both his heritage and his United States citizenship, and served as a shining example to all; a dedicated American and a true hero;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim December 8, 2007 as

*** SILVESTRE S. HERRERA DAY ***

in the State of Arizona and call upon all Arizonans to honor and remember the life of one of Arizona's favorite sons.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Janet Napolitano

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this third day of December in the year Two Thousand and Seven and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-second.

ATTEST:

Janice K. Brewer
Secretary of State

